



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910

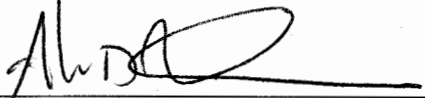
GENERAL CATEGORY ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA FISHERY CLOSURE REMINDER

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) issues this reminder that under the current regulations for the Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS), the 2005 General category Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT) season (June 1, 2005 - January 31, 2006) closed on January 31, 2006.

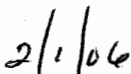
Therefore, fishing for, retaining, possessing, or landing large medium or giant BFT, measuring 73 inches curved fork length, or greater, under the General category quota, is prohibited.

Persons aboard vessels permitted in the Atlantic Tunas General or HMS Charter/Headboat category may catch and release or tag and release BFT of all size classes while the General category is closed. All BFT should be released, or tagged and released, with a minimum of injury. For tagging kits, please contact the Cooperative Tagging Center at 1-800-437-3936.

This FAX notice is a courtesy to BFT fishery permit holders to help keep you informed about your fishery. For further information, contact Brad McHale, 978-281-9260.



Alan D. Risenhoover
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries



Date

